

Road to Israel

Read how several historical forces shaped the events of 1948.

SS7H2.b "Explain the historical factors contributing to the establishment of the modern State of Israel in 1948; include the Jewish religious connection to the land, antisemitism, the development of Zionism in Europe..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the four historical factors that contributed to Israel's establishment: religious connection, antisemitism, Zionism, and the Holocaust. Underline one phrase near each factor that shows how it helped lead toward a Jewish state.

Several Paths to 1948

- ① For centuries, Jewish religious tradition connected the Jewish people to the land known in their scriptures as Israel. Prayers, holidays, and stories remembered Jerusalem and the ancient kingdoms located there. After Roman rule, many Jews lived in communities across Europe, North Africa, and Southwest Asia, a dispersion called the diaspora. Even while living elsewhere, many Jews kept religious and cultural ties to the land. This long connection did not decide modern borders by itself, but it became an important reason some Jews supported a return.
- ② During the nineteenth century, antisemitism, prejudice and violence against Jews, grew in parts of Europe. Some Jews faced limits on jobs, schools, or where they could live, while violent attacks called pogroms frightened whole communities. In response to these dangers and to hopes for national self-rule, Theodor Herzl and other leaders developed modern Zionism. This movement argued that Jews needed a national home in their ancestral land. Zionist organizations raised funds, encouraged immigration, and built communities in Ottoman and later British-controlled Palestine.
- ③ Between 1933 and 1945, Nazi Germany and its allies murdered six million Jews in the Holocaust. Survivors often had lost relatives, homes, and communities, and many could not or did not want to return to places where they had faced persecution. The disaster increased worldwide support for a Jewish homeland. In 1947, the United Nations proposed dividing British-controlled Palestine into Jewish and Arab states. When British rule ended in 1948, Jewish leaders declared the State of Israel. War followed as neighboring Arab states and Palestinian Arab forces fought the new state.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Jewish religious traditions keep a connection to the land over many centuries?

2 Why did antisemitism lead some European Jews to support a national home?

3 What did modern Zionism argue, and what are two actions Zionist organizations took?

4 How did the aftermath of the Holocaust contribute to the events that led to Israel's declaration in 1948?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence explanation of how religious connection, antisemitism, Zionism, and the Holocaust all contributed to the establishment of Israel in 1948. Use each of the four terms and include at least two cause-and-effect words, such as because, so, or therefore.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Number the four historical factors that contributed to Israel's establishment: religious connection, antisemitism, Zionism, and the Holocaust. Underline one phrase near each factor that shows how it helped lead toward a Jewish state. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Jewish religious traditions keep a connection to the land over many centuries?	Prayers, holidays, and stories remembered Jerusalem and the ancient kingdoms, keeping religious and cultural ties to the land alive during the diaspora.
2	Why did antisemitism lead some European Jews to support a national home?	Antisemitism brought prejudice, restrictions, and violent attacks, so some Jews sought safety and national self-rule.
3	What did modern Zionism argue, and what are two actions Zionist organizations took?	Zionism argued that Jews needed a national home in their ancestral land. Organizations raised funds, encouraged immigration, and built communities in Palestine.
4	How did the aftermath of the Holocaust contribute to the events that led to Israel's declaration in 1948?	The Holocaust left many survivors without homes or safe communities and increased worldwide support for a Jewish homeland. In 1947 the UN proposed partition, and when British rule ended in 1948, Jewish leaders declared Israel.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Jewish religious connection to the land kept memories of Jerusalem and ancient Israel important across the diaspora. Because antisemitism made life dangerous and restricted opportunities in Europe, some Jews sought greater security. Zionism organized the goal of a Jewish national home and helped build communities in Palestine. After the Holocaust increased support for that goal, the end of British rule helped make Israel's declaration in 1948 possible.

Accept equivalent explanations that accurately connect all four required factors to the establishment of Israel. For the open response, check for four sentences, all four terms, and at least two clear cause-and-effect connections.